

The Fort Erie Times

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Thursday, January 5, 2017



Annual
Polar
Bear Dip
Saturday **3**



Film festival
founder
dead **16**

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Puck drops on ceremonial faceoff

KRIS DORR/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Mayor Wayne Redekop drops the puck during a ceremonial faceoff on Monday at the Leisurplex before a game between the Fort Erie Midget A team and the visiting club from Vanersborgs, Sweden. The mayor was joined by team captains Casper Andersson and Matthew King, along with the pregame show's master of ceremonies Doug Sauer, also vice-president of the Greater Fort Erie Minor Hockey Association. For story see page 18.



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Lisa Kelleher, a local jewelry maker, has had her life turned upside-down from a fire in the Crystal Beach apartment above her living quarters.

KRIS DUBE/SPECTRA TO THE TIMES



BLAKE FARRMAN/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Fort Erie Fire Department was called to a structure fire in Crystal Beach on Tuesday, Dec. 27 which interim chief Keith German says was caused by careless use of a candle. The fire was limited to a bedroom and the apartment's five occupants were uninjured. Damage is estimated at \$100,000.

Tenant loses possessions to smoke, water damage

KRIS DUBE
Spectra to the Times

The tenant living below a Crystal Beach apartment that was gutted by fire last week has had her life turned upside-down.

The blaze originated in the upstairs unit on Erie Road, occupied by a mother and her four young sons.

Acting fire chief Keith German said earlier this week

that the cause was deemed to be "careless use of a candle," and that damage was estimated at \$100,000. There were no reported injuries, he said.

Lisa Kelleher, a local jewelry maker, is in desperate need of the community's support after smoke and water from the incident flooded into her living area.

She's dealing with an order

to be out of her apartment by the end of the month, but has nowhere to store possessions that are damaged but could be restored in the future — and many other headaches caused by the multiple-alarm call that brought out more than 30 firefighters from across Greater Fort Erie on Dec. 27.

Kelleher said her biggest problem now is storage, as it doesn't look like she can find

anything available sooner than next week, especially since everything she owns is drenched in smoke and water.

"Every single one of my possessions is ruined," she said, emotionally.

She has been in contact with the Salvation Army and posts on Facebook about Kelleher's situation have been circulating since last week.

The young entrepreneur

was also in the process of getting her insurance situation sorted out after she says the town of Fort Erie shut her down for operating a home business without being properly registered as one.

Kelleher also provided the following on Facebook:

"I'm hopeful that my art and mementos that I have collected from all over this beautiful earth will eventually dry out and shed the

smoke smell. My workspace was spared the water, thankfully, but again, the smoke permeated absolutely everything.

The irony is that although I need so much right now, I don't have anywhere to put anything! I am very thankful for all the offers of a place to stay, but I still don't really know what to do."

Anyone able to offer support can call 905-894-4104.





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POSTMEDIA NETWORK FILE PHOTO

Last year's Polar Dip attracted stalwarts of all ages.

Polar Dip for brave souls set for Saturday

KRIS DOBE
Special to the Times

An annual tradition in Crystal Beach for brave souls who love the cold is set for Saturday.

Starting with registration at 10:30 a.m., the Polar Bear Dip and Chili Challenge, hosted by the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Association, will take place at the Bertie Boat Club in Point Abino.

The dip will take place at 12 p.m. and organizer Shelby Fear expects a turnout of participants that will exceed 200 people.

Hundreds will also watch from the sidelines and enjoy some of the 12 homemade recipes com-

peting in the chili challenge portion of the event.

The event is a fundraiser for the St. Vincent De Paul food bank that operates out of St. George's Catholic Church and serves needy individuals and families in the Ridgeway-Crystal Beach area.

"Especially after Christmas, it's great to have something like this - when their pantries are low," said Fear, owner of the Paddy Wagon on Erie Road.

"We had truckloads last year," she added.

There will also be a 50/50 draw, as well as prizes for the best costume for anyone who takes the plunge.

The Fort Erie Underwater Recovery Unit also provides support to the event.

The Crystal Beach and Point Abino area is a major tourist draw in the summer months, which is why Fear says the annual Polar Bear Dip is a great way to attract visitors during the offseason.

"We'll have people from all over the Niagara region," she said.

The CBIA has been hosting the event for the last five years but the first held in Fort Erie was back in 1987.

Saturday's dip and chili challenge is a family-friendly event and everyone is invited.

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Province points to NPCA board for audit

GRANT LAFLECHE
Postmedia Network

Ontario's minister of natural resources and forestry says she does not have the authority to conduct an audit of Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

In a letter to local councils, including the City of St. Catharines, circulated to the media Thursday, Kathryn McGarry said reviews of that nature are out of her hands.

"I regret to inform you that the current avenue to address any concerns with the management of the NPCA would be through your own municipal-appointed representatives on the NPCA board," McGarry wrote.

"The ministry does not have the legislative ability to order a forensic audit. The province oversees the policy relating to conservation authorities but it is municipalities, like you, who have

the sole authority to appoint the boards. MNRF's interests are in flood control and watershed management, and we have no hand in the operations or operational oversight of the conservation authorities."

Several Niagara municipalities have called on the province to audit the NPCA after the release of a citizens report alleging mismanagement at the authority.

Ed Smith distributed a report that accused the NPCA of using questionable practices and conflicts of interest. In response, the NPCA threatened legal action against Smith and demanded an apology. Smith has not backed down.

Since the release of the report, councils in Pelham, Wainfleet, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Port Colborne and Welland have called for an NPCA audit. Some asked the

NPCA to hire a third party to conduct an audit, while others have called upon the province to do it.

Welland went so far as to ask the Ontario Provincial Police to conduct the review.

In her letter, McGarry said the province is reviewing the Conservation Authorities Act, which governs bodies such as the NPCA, "to ensure it is meeting the modern needs of Ontarians."

That review included the opportunity for the public to provide comments from May to September on the government's environmental registry website.

A ministry spokeswoman was not able to say when the review will be completed.

"My ministry has identified five key priorities that are the current focus of the review, one of which is strengthening oversight and accountability in conservation authority decision-making," McGarry wrote.

"I am aware that improvements can be made to strengthen conservation authority governance and accountability and will be

looking to do this when we move forward with new legislation."

Under the act as it stands, however, McGarry said she cannot order an audit. She

said a request for an audit should be made to the representatives of the NPCA board of directors.

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Kathryn McGarry, provincial minister of natural resources, says she cannot conduct a Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority audit.

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Survey spotlights needs of Niagara dads

DON FRASER
Postmedia Network

According to Statistics Canada, there are about 4,000 births in Niagara every year.

And that means many new dads who may need services and supports to help them raise their children.

To that end, Niagara Region's public health department is hosting a survey designed to get a better

handle on the interests and needs of local dads.

The fathering survey at niagararegion.ca/health is an initiative of the Dad Central Niagara group of service partners.

Its questions include those that pertain to activities done with children, as well as routines and family activities. One asks how the dad shows love and appreciation to the child.

Fathers are also asked to

rate their community as one that supports children, and looks closely into the survey-taker's demographics.

The survey notes that by father, it means any biological dad, boyfriend, stepfather, grandfather, adoptive father, or caregiver.

"Dad Central Niagara is hoping to use this information to help support community priorities for fathers," said Jeff Biletski, manager of the public

health department's child health program.

"It will help them plan around supporting fathers and activities."

Biletski said 306 surveys were completed as of Thursday, Dec. 29. The survey was launched in June and continues until Father's Day 2017.

"Our goal is to try and gather about 1,000 surveys, so we have a really good and diverse sample of dads in

Niagara," said Biletski, also a co-chair of Dad Central.

"That way, we'll be able to help support them as much as we can in activities with our community partners, and not just the Region."

Biletski said the survey is not only available on the website, but also in hardcopy form through community partners.

He said early next year, volunteers at community events will also be on hand

for fathers to take the surveys.

Dad Central includes Strive Niagara, Brock University, Ontario Early Years Centres, Niagara Region children's services, Kiwanis, Family Counselling Centre of Niagara, Family and Children's Services Niagara, Bethlehem Housing and Support Services, and the Early Childhood Development Centre.

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The
Fort Erie Times

Angus Scott regional editor
Sarah Ferguson editor

Point of View

Looking back on news of 2016, and what we might expect in 2017

As the Times looks back on the news of 2016, the news shows it was a somewhat productive year in Fort Erie.

The good news to come from the Town was that planning staff have been busy with ongoing and anticipated growth, as a record was set for the most new residential units being created around Greater Fort Erie, mostly in the Ridgeway and Crystal Beach areas.

We have a town council that's focused on this community's prosperity and a regional councillor who isn't a backbencher sitting quietly in background, also fighting to make sure Fort Erie gets its well-deserved piece of the pie.

A strategic plan created by the local government, focused on growth, effective and sustainable infrastructure, as well as communications and customer service, should open opportunities for the entire municipality.

A perfect example of this is the \$850,000 development slated to rejuvenate Bay Beach, something that should do wonderful things for the area.

A new high school and arts theatre is scheduled to open in 2017, expected to be a catalyst for the success of many future generations in Fort Erie.

But there's some bad news as

well, or rather lack of news - we continue to wait for major projects such as the Canadian Motor Speedway to become a reality.

For nearly a decade, we've been patient - waiting for this \$400-million development, as well as others like the Miller's Creek Marina project and a revitalization surrounding the Fort Erie Race Track.

Council has positioned itself to keep these items at the forefront - but let's just hope they don't gradually disappear as the year grows old.

Deteriorating infrastructure in Fort Erie has also been given much needed attention. The horrific condition of Dominion Road will soon be a part of history, and local residents have been travelling the recently-replaced Central Avenue for about two months already.

What is being touted as the largest residential development Greater Fort Erie has ever seen, the Fort Erie Hills subdivision, is also a news item we will be keeping a close eye on this year.

Local officials have been working hard for the last year and we as residents should do the same to make sure this continues. Let's pay attention a little more this year and make sure we are getting the best bang for our buck.

Do you Remember?



A little Lioness told us that last week's photo of the children receiving candy canes from Santa was a Lunch with Santa event held at the Ridgeway Lions Hall in 1981. We are still hoping to learn the names of the children, so we would welcome any of your calls and e-mails about them. Our thanks to Eric Hancock who called in about another recent holiday photo of a gentleman and a Salvation Army kettle. He remembers his band mate Charlie Lincoln when they were both with the Gilmore Road Salvation Army. He also told us that the photo was taken in front of the Stedman's store that was on Jarvis Street in Fort Erie. This week's photo (top) appears to be a teacher with her students. Do you recognize yourself in the photo or perhaps your child? If so, please call the Fort Erie Museum at 905-894-5322 or send us an e-mail museum@forterie.ca.

Music and art happening at Sanctuary

We at the Sanctuary - Centre for the Arts are wishing all of you a fantastic 2017 filled with health, love and peace. Let's make it an amazing year - together.

We would like to recruit your help in our efforts to become a greener venue. We have decided to say goodbye to the old water bottle in 2017. If you are attending any of the classes offered at The Sanctuary, please bring a reusable water bottle (not to shows, please). We will offer water to all our patrons who come to shows. In addition to banning water bottles, we will switch our cups to their biodegradable counterparts. We really appreciate your support in this matter.

Let's see what we have going on at The Sanctuary this January, shall we?



NADINE
PIZZICAROLA

Sanctuary for the Arts

The new Kiddoodle Kids Art Class starts on Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. courtesy of The Fort Erie Arts Council. This class is always a big hit with young artists aged six to 12. Six weeks cost \$75, all material included (\$70 for members). Please email feaclasses@gmail.com for more info and to register.

If you are an amateur musician 35 years old and up, with rock 'n' roll running through your blood, this class is for you. Join one the

bands and refresh your skills in a caring and sharing environment. Eight sessions will give you structured weekly practice, discussions and presentations for an introduction fee of only \$150. To finish up the session, you get to show off your skills to a live audience.

Check out www.oldmanrockband.com or email andy@oldmanrockband.com to register or for more information. Meet Andy Wason today (Jan. 5) at 8 p.m. at The Sanctuary - Centre for the Arts. The first class is scheduled for Jan. 10 at 8 p.m.

Creating art is a very fulfilling and rewarding way to spend some leisure time. It is good for the soul which in turn will affect your body positively. So why not try out the new winter Watercolour & Acrylic Painting class on Thursday, Jan. 12 to

Feb. 16? Class will run from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. powered by The Fort Erie Arts Council. Local artist Melani Pyke will join you on the path of discovering water-based media this winter. The first three-week session will be all about the magic of water colours, followed by a three-week session painting with acrylics. The class costs \$96, including supplies (10 per cent discount for FEAC members). Please email feaclasses@gmail.com for more info and to register in fantastic class for beginner to intermediate artists.

Our friends from the Canadian super awesome band Hollerado are returning to the Sanctuary stage on Jan. 14. We are so excited and we know you are, too. These guys have played all over the world with bands such as The Flaming Lips and Weezer.

They were nominated for the best new group at the 2011 Juno Awards.

Their success is showcased on multiple radio stations across the country. Expect mood-elevating catchy tunes with meaning and soul.

What a way to start the new year: Three super fun bands for only \$20. Tickets are available on www.ticketscene.ca or at Brimstone Brewing Company. Doors open at 8 p.m., show will be on its way at 9 p.m. Standing room only.

For more information about what is going on at The Sanctuary - Centre for the Arts visit www.thesanctuaryarts.org or like us on Facebook. If you'd like to know what is happening at Brimstone Brewing Company, please check out www.brimstonebrewing.ca.

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Ukeleles and spelling bee at local library

The Spelling Bee for Family Literacy Day is a winter tradition at the Fort Erie Public Library, and this year's bee will be held on Monday, Jan. 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Centennial branch.

Held in partnership with the Adult Literacy Council of Greater Fort Erie, it is a chance for students to have fun and challenge themselves to be the last speller standing in their age group. Children in Grades 3 through 9 including homeschoolers, are eligible to register, and grade-



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Winter begins again with sunshine, rain, ice and wind

Winter began again with sunshine and yes, unseasonal rain.

While I was looking over the frozen meandering Welland River in north Wainfleet meeling had opened the edges of the river. Now winter began again with a shining lacework of ice growing along the river's borders. Winter began again with a strong, warm southwest wind. Standing on the old river road winter began again with the calling of a blue jay. As I walked westwards facing a soft rain winter began again that day with the cawing of a crow. In the river bushes below came the whistling of a cardinal. It stopped.

From my daughter's and son-in-law's O'Brien home on the slope above



me the beginning of winter came again with the sweet, pungent fragrance of cherry wood smoke from their blazing fireplace. Pleasurable? Yes. Ed Teale, nature writer, wrote, "As always at such a time, The time of quitting fall and entering winter again, I marvel at how swiftly the days have passed since June. How rapid the pace of our journey through that half of the year." He seemed to lament that things will

slow down in the coming winter months. Hey, brother Ed, you and I are growing older. Take heart for now it appears the time that stretches through the winter months will be long and slow. Old timers like us can slow down a bit, eh? ***

We were with Ernie Giles, a Niagara Peninsula naturalist, far back in Short Hills Provincial Park. It was a short few days but a welcome respite from the cold winter. We walked ascending the field southwards close to the edge of the park woods. A row of goldenrods still stood ramrod straight. As we walked by a swirling gust of wind partially uncovered the woolly rosette of a mullein plant. Ernie stopped us and

moved among the goldenrods to the snow-covered mullein plant. He shook the stem revealing the thick flannel-like leaves. Have you ever felt the texture of a mullein leaf? Ernie doesn't usually disturb nature but this time he wanted to share a secret. "Do you know what is often inside a mullein leaf?" Carefully he separated the mullein leaf and tiny forms of life

appeared. Minute spiders, little beetles, and specks of springtails had found a snug winter retreat. There they would have been secure while ice and snow lock in our winter environment. Ernie closed the leaf as best he could. Sorry guys. ***

Tony, at church on Christmas Day, asked me this question. "Earl, do bluebirds stay here

all winter? Don't they migrate?" I said yes.

Tony replied. "I have two of them daily out my back yard."

Tony has two bluebird boxes. Can it be? Cousin Leanna (Plato) Stein also informed me that in Wainfleet they see more of a number of traditional migrating songbirds wintering over. Global warming I guess.

Driving

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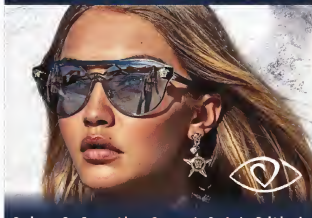


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Happy 100th



NEWS SOURCE: SPECIAL TO POSTMEDIA NETWORKS

Alice Pfeiffer, a resident at Garrison Place, was recently thrown a 100th birthday party. The former school teacher, who came to Canada after living in Czechoslovakia and Hungary, spent many years teaching German and French at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls MPP Wayne Gates stopped in to wish her a happy birthday at the retirement home where she has lived at since 2013.

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TIFF, Niagara Film Fest founder Marshall dead at 77

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

The fate of the Niagara Integrated Film Festival is uncertain after the death of its founder Bill Marshall on New Year's Day.

Marshall, who started the festival in 2014, died of cardiac arrest early Jan. 1 after he was rushed to hospital in Toronto on New Year's Eve. He was 77.

Niagara Film Fest manager Rob Lalonde spoke briefly Sunday with Marshall's "deeply heartbroken" wife, Sari Ruda, who said the festival's future will be decided in the coming weeks.

"He was the heartbeat of it," says Lalonde. "I don't know, it's going to be difficult. It's undecided as of now."

Marshall, who immigrated to Canada from Scotland in 1955, was a huge figure in

Canadian cinema. In 1976, he co-founded the Toronto International Film Festival, and after a slow start it would become the second most important film festival in the world after Cannes.

It was the same adventurous spirit which brought him to Niagara.

"Nobody wanted the Toronto film festival, believe me," he told *The Review* in 2014. "I'm not surprised that people say (Niagara) won't do anything. Yeah, just wait."

Using wineries, local restaurants and outdoor screenings, the festival was a modest success its first year. Marshall's plan was to eventually catch the attention of studios by offering them a chance to preview their summer movies in a unique setting.

"It always struck me that, if you're going to have a different kind of festival... you had to get something that would be a tourist attraction," he said in 2014. "The main thing Niagara region has is the wineries, the cul-

sine and the culture."

At St. Catharines press conference announcing the event, Marshall said he didn't want to be known as a "one trick pony" who couldn't replicate the Toronto festival's success.

"I thought, if I'm going to do one, I want to make sure it's a winner. Niagara seemed like a no-brainer to me."

The Niagara festival wrapped up its third year last June. Lalonde recalls one screening at a winery where two autograph seekers bypassed some celebrities and went straight to Marshall.

"They wanted a picture and autograph with him. That's the kind of impact he had."

While Marshall was highly visible during the Niagara festival's first two years, he stepped back during the third year. Lalonde says he has been battling health issues for the past decade.

Dignitaries and entertainers were quick to praise the Canadian film pioneer, who produced hundreds of documentaries.

"Bill Marshall was an artist, a dedicated Torontonians by choice, a TIFF founder and most of all a friend," said Toronto Mayor John Tory in a statement. "He always thought big and we were the winners thanks to his creativity and determination. More so than any of that he was just plain fun."

A statement released by Marshall's family said he was "in the business of making dreams become reality."

"Now, as the house lights dim, friends and family will remember and honour Bill as a first-rate raconteur, famous for his honesty, keen mind and wry humour."

Lalonde can't imagine what the Canadian film industry would have looked like without Marshall.

"Thank God this didn't happen 41 years ago. The film landscape in Canada would look significantly different than it is today."

Marshall is survived by his wife, three children and six grandchildren. Funeral details have not been finalized.

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Their first action was to raise 35 pounds sterling for supplies needed to build a log church with their own labor. They had left Germany earlier, just as Kaiser Wilhelm decreed that there should be but one church in each community. Canada's first "Union Church" included Mennonites, Quakers, Catholics, Gypsies, Jews, Evangelicals, Reformed and Lutheran members. Today it is known as St. John's-Stevensville United Church.

Sunday worship service 11:00 am; only minutes to Sodom Rd, Ft. Erie, just north of Stevensville, QEW exits 16 & 17.

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JAMIE JOESAK/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Bill Marshall, founder of the Toronto International Film Festival, speaks at the opening ceremony for the Niagara Integrated Film Festival in Market Square, St. Catharines in May, 2014. Marshall died New Year's Day of cardiac arrest.

Students organize Food for Substance



During the week leading up to Christmas, students involved in Fort Erie Secondary School's Specialist High Skills Major Hospitality and Tourism Program offered a 'Food for Substance' event, raising almost \$500 and a collection of non-perishable food items for Community Outreach Program Erie. Students in the popular culinary program sold bowls of gourmet soups each day for \$2 per bowl. Presenting a cheque are principal Neil Sheard, left, teacher Anna Hanson, students Megan Louws, Morgan Miller and Elizabeth Chir, and teacher Afshin Keyvani.

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KRIS DUBE/SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Referee Dan Strugar prepares both teams during an international exhibition hockey game at the Leisureplex on Monday.

Fort Erie teens match up against Swedes

KRIS DUBE
Special to the Times

Two countries collided at the Leisureplex on Monday afternoon.

A game between the Fort Erie midget A team and a club from Vanersborgs, Sweden, also consisting of players who are 16 and 17 years old, was played in front of a few hundred people.

Christian Erkkila, head coach of the Swedish team, said his

players have been enjoying their stay so far. A trip to the Hockey Hall of Fame, taking in a World Junior game in Toronto between Slovakia and the U.S., and lacing up for four exhibition matches against Canadian teams from southern Ontario, have all been part of the team's itinerary.

"For them, it's a big dream to come to Canada and play," said Erkkila.

"They're very excited about this."

Rich Graham, head coach for

the local midget team, said he is delighted that his team could be a part of the international game on Monday.

"It's a nice, friendly match between two countries who both share a pastime that everybody loves - and that's the most important thing - people coming together," he said.

The Fort Erie team currently sits one point out of first place in the regular season standings, competing against other teams in the Golden Horseshoe.

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Applications are available at www.nrh.ca or by calling Regional Councillor Paul Grenier, NRH Chair at 905-980-6000 x.3965. The deadline for submissions is January 13, 2017. We thank all interested parties; but only those being considered for positions will be contacted.



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Fort Erie won the recent Slo-Pitch National Provincial Championships held in Niagara Falls. Playing for the Cloud 9 team in the men's E division were (front, left) Richie Searson, Ryan Crawford, Ronnie Dession, Jim Barkman, Al Staroba, Jeff Whalen, Randy Winger, Dave Ammer Jr., Dave Ammer Sr., Ryan Defoe (top left), Keith Rideout, Tyler Goulding, Tommy Gentles, Bryan Sebben, Gavin Bruce and Bobby Moore.

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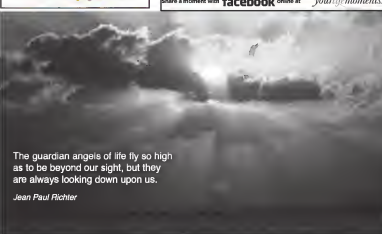


Happy SWEET 16 DAY!!!

Love Mom & Ryan
XXXXXX
January 6th



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Jean Paul Richter

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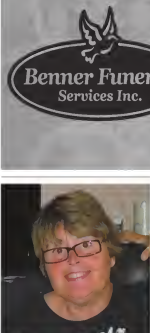
Obituaries

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Obituaries



KRAR, Sharon (Clark) passed peacefully Dec. 23, 2016. Survived by her husband Allan, her daughters Brookseley, Erica & Lisa, her parents Larry & Janet Clark, sisters Cathy Pike (Phil), Jennifer Giromoni (Lucio) & Maureen Cassal (Brian), aunts, uncles & cousins. Predeceased by her brother Daniel Clark. At her request cremation has taken place and no services.

SMITH, Evelyn - Evelyn Smith died peacefully at Gilmore Lodge in Fort Erie on Saturday, December 24th near the end of her 97th year. Evelyn is predeceased by her parents, Thomas and Louise Foster, 2 husbands, Victor Bowers and George Smith, a brother, George Foster, a sister Florence Wey, an infant daughter Wendy Bowers and an infant son, Thomas Bowers. She is survived by her sister, Doris (Ivan) Sabljic, her brother, John (Rose) Foster, her 4 children - Peggy (Ron) Hyde of Madoc, Kathie (Bob) Hiller of Fort Erie, Richard (Patricia) Bowers of Bancroft and Larry (Sandra) Bowers of Kitchener. Evelyn was the proud grandmother of 14, great grandmother of 24 and one on the way, and a great great grandmother of 1. A memorial service at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses has been held on January 4th. Sincere thanks go out to Dr. Scher for his compassionate care and the outstanding staff at Gilmore Lodge for their excellent care during the last 8 months of her life.

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May the stars carry your sadness away,
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,
May hope forever wipe away your tears,
And, above all, may silence make you strong.

Chief Dan George



Williams Funeral Services



RENDEL, Heien Margaret (Mills) - Daughter of Calvin and Kathleen Wemp Mills was born on April 26, 1925, in Moncton, N.B. and passed away into the presence of her Lord on Friday, December 30, 2016. During the war of 1939-1945 she met "the love of her life" Rev. Ernest Gordon Rendle who survives her. They were married on July 23, 1946 and this year they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. She was a secretary and a loving homemaker. She was also a gifted musician, a Bible teacher and a caring pastor's wife for over 50 years. She is the devoted mother of Muriel Gunn (John) and Nancy Haines (Mark). She also leaves behind two grandsons David Haines (Laury), and Darrell Haines (Alyana) and five great-grandchildren Corelie, Israel, Elijah, William, and Isaac. She is also survived by two sisters Carol Cooke of Toronto and Kathleen Deall of Niagara-on-the-Lake, a brother Allison Mills (Bernie), Moncton, N.B., and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and a sister Janette Carter. Visitation will be at **BENNER FUNERAL HOME**, 1105 Benner Ave, Fort Erie on Friday January 6, 2017 from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at First Baptist Church, 155 Berlie Street, Fort Erie on Saturday January 7, 2016 at 2 p.m., with an hour of visitation, with the family, prior to the service. A reception will follow. A family committal service will have taken place. Special thanks to Dr. C. Che for his wonderful care and support. Memorial gifts to the Gideons International or charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

"For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain"

Angels are watching over you
Wings wrapped gently around you,
Whispering you are loved and blessed.
Angel Blessing

WHITAKER, Greta Elizabeth - Greta passed away surrounded by her family in the comfort of her home on Thursday December 15th, 2016 at the age of 85. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth Edgar Whitaker, Christian mother of David (his wife Ellen) and Michael. Sadly missed by her sister in law Brenda Allison, her niece Susan (husband Jeff) Vandeventer and their children Gordon and Colin. She is also survived by Bridget Kennedy who she treated like a daughter as well as many other relatives and friends in Canada, England and Wales. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Cremation has taken place. A service to celebrate Greta's life will take place in the Funeral Chapel on Saturday January 14th at 2 p.m. The family has asked, in lieu of flowers, donations in Greta's name may be made to one of these charities: Cancer Society, Heart and Stroke Foundation or the McMaster Children's Hospital.

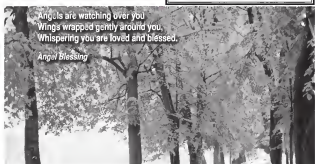
In Memoriams

In Memoriams

**SHIRLEY E. PORTER
SAM POLETTA**

In loving memory of my wife Shirley (January 4, 2014) and my brother Sammy (December 30, 2013). It's been three years since the good Lord took you home. We see you everyday whether it's in a picture frame, computer screen, in our dreams or in the clouds. Thanks for all the great times we had and all the memories you gave us. We miss you and love you very much.

Love always, your Family



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